From:

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Sent:

Monday, June 08, 2009 2:49 PM

To:

Cc:

Subject: Council Meeting Testimony

June 10, 2009

The Honorable Todd Apo, Chairperson And Members Honolulu City Council 530 South King Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE:

Strong Support tof Bill 16 CD2 FD1 Version B

relating to the Executive Capitol Budget

Chairperson Apo and Council Members:

On behalf of Na Leo Pohai, the public policy affiliate of The Outdoor Circle, I would like to submit our testimony in strong support of Bill 16 CD2 FD1 Version B.

If passed, Bill 16 CD2 FD1 Version B will prohibit the City from spending any substantial funds for the construction of the Honolulu Transit Project until a Record of Decision has been filed by the Federal Transit Administration.

While The Outdoor Circle does not oppose transit we believe the project currently planned by the City has too many environmental impacts that have not been addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. We further believe that the DEIS identifies numerous impacts from the project for which the proposed mitigation is inadequate or not mentioned at all.

Ultimately we are deeply concerned that if the City provides the initial funding and the project commences, it will be allowed to continue even if the environmental impacts are never fully disclosed and if acceptable mitigation is not proposed.

We strongly urge the Council to approve Bill 16 CD2 FD1 Version B. We further ask that the Council refrain from taking any action that will allow construction on the project to begin until questions about the environmental impacts and lack of mitigation have been answered to the public's satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Bob Loy Director of Environmental Programs The Outdoor Circle 1314 South King Street, Suite 306 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 (808) 593-0300

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